

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
August 25, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:32 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** Roger Wills – Trinity Free Methodist Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Barron and Mr. Widing were absent. All other members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**

Mr. Goralczyk read a “Thank You” letter for the Merrillville Fire Department from the Impact Christian Church. Mr. Goralczyk mentioned that ComEd will be doing utility work in the area.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated August 25, 2015. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2015. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Miano. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Miano had no report.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the Inter-local Agreement for Northwest Regional Swat Team. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardaway. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Mrs. Miano had no report.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mr. Goralczyk had no report. Mr. Lake provided a brief overview of Stormwater updates.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Mrs. Miano had no report.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit announced that Tradebe Environmental Services will be relocating their headquarters from Oakbrook, Illinois to Merrillville. This will bring 55 new jobs to the Town of Merrillville as well as occupy a currently vacant building.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mrs. Barron was absent, no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

Mr. Hardaway provided a brief update related to the Northlake Property building, and stated he will be reporting back to the council in September regarding this location.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 15-18:** An ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana prohibiting the sale or use gun-shaped cellphone cases and establishing a penalty for violation. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Miano. In Mrs. Barron absence, she submitted an email related to this ordinance. There was no further discussion. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 15-19:** An ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Casino Fund for the year 2015 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 15-20:** An ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana to amend the municipal code governing waste haulers, scavengers and scrappers. There was some discussion. Mr. Bushemi read an amendment of additional conditions to be implemented prior to second reading of this ordinance. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the amended ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. In Mrs. Barron absence, she submitted an email related to this ordinance. There was no further discussion. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 15-21:** An ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana to amend the municipal code governing peddlers and solicitors. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance with the set forth conditions related to days/ hours of operation established at the council workshop. The ordinance was seconded by Mr. Spann. In Mrs. Barron absence, she submitted an email related to this ordinance. There was no further discussion. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 15-17:** An ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, Providing that the Zoning Ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing the established C-3 Highway Commercial zoning classification to a planned unit development, mixed use zoning classification. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Hardaway. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 15-28:** A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, making deductions in the 2015 Rental Registration Fund. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

**Petitioner:** Yousef Alahmad  
**Owner:** ICD  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** For a used car lot  
**Location:** 5924 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-2, Community Commercial  
**Case #:** Z29E8-0715  
**Conditions:** For this petitioner only at this location only for this use only.  
Must remove all hoist racks from inside of building.  
No more than ten (10) cars on lot.  
Site improvements to be completed – Striping and Landscaping.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve with the conditions from BZA. Mr. Pettit also requested an additional condition that approval is predicated upon a facade plan being submitted by petitioner within 60 days to the town and subsequent approval of the said facade plan by the zoning director and building inspector. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardaway. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Brief discussion occurred related to the nursing home facilities moratorium bill.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, August 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.  
Stormwater Management Board meeting, September 1, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.  
Police Commission meeting, September 4, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.  
Town Hall closed on September 7, 2015 in observance of Labor Day.  
Town Council meeting, September 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hardaway and seconded by Mr. Spann.

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Tom Goralczyk, President

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Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer